

the way we want other actors and actresses to behave to promote more livable communities. I would earnestly request that my colleagues join me in sponsoring this legislation to make the Postal Service a full partner in assuring the liveability of America's communities.

**MY GOAL AS A REPRESENTATIVE:
ENSURING FEDERAL POLICIES
ARE CONDUCTIVE TO PRESERVING
UNIQUE WAY OF LIFE IN RURAL
AMERICA**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, the Washington Post headlines trumpets good news. The economy outpaces growth forecasts, the stock market is up, unemployment is down and prices from the grocery store to the gas pump are low and stable. The conventional wisdom is that life in America is as good as it gets, and perhaps for some Americans it is. But behind the statistics lies pockets in this country where the economic lives of our citizens are not so good.

I rise today on behalf of the citizens of rural Kansas, the farmers and ranchers, the independent oil producers, senior citizens on fixed income and communities leaders struggling to hold on to essential services. These folks take little comfort in government statistics showing how good the economy is doing. In rural Kansas times are tough. Agriculture, still our economic base, is caught in a vice grip of depressed prices. Even our most diversified operators are struggling as prices for almost everything we produce in Kansas, cattle, corn, wheat, hogs, milo, soybeans, are all at historic lows. The new Census of Agriculture shows Kansas has 1,685 fewer farms this year than just 5 years ago. USDA reports that net farm income will be down for the third year in a row, and exports are reduced as well.

The President's new budget fails to address the difficulties in agriculture. No new money for crop insurance. Farm program spending is reduced, and money for export promotion is cut by 15 percent. Even money for our food donation program such as P.L. 480 is cut by almost a billion dollars from last year's level.

Mr. Speaker, we in Congress must find solutions, and removing agricultural sanctions is a start. The American farmer cannot continue with 52 percent of the world markets threatened by unilateral sanctions. I joined in introducing legislation on the first day of this session to remove agricultural sanctions, and we must continue to press hard on this issue.

The bottom has been knocked out of the domestic oil and gas industry as

well. Thirty thousand wells have been shut down in Kansas alone due to declining prices. Employment in Kansas' oil and gas industry is down from a high of 40,000 jobs to under 13,000 today. According to the Kansas Geological Survey, if prices remain at their current levels, oil receipts in Kansas will drop 900 million and our State will lose an additional 5000 jobs.

As a country, we have spent billions, even gone to war to protect foreign petroleum sources. Should we not do something to preserve our domestic industry as well? We now import two-thirds of the oil consumed in this country, and this reliance only continues to grow. Unfortunately, again, the President's budget is little assistance. Energy research and development is cut. No funding is included for additional purchases for the strategic petroleum reserve. With oil prices at this low level, it is an excellent time to replenish this reserve and fill it to full capacity.

Tax relief for the oil and gas industry must be a priority. I support legislation to lower taxes on marginal well production in the United States and to create incentives for inactive wells to be brought back into production. This industry has been taxed excessively when times are good, and we must now provide relief when it is needed.

Compounding our economic struggles in rural America is the misguided Federal policies that threaten the viability of our communities. The 1997 budget bill made significant cuts on Medicare programs that our seniors and hospitals rely upon. The President has proposed in his budget yet another round of Medicare cuts to hospitals. For rural Kansas, hospitals are already hanging on by a string. Rather than another round of hastily crafted cuts we need a long-term plan to ensure the solvency of this critical program and to ensure that rural health care providers and patients are treated fairly. I, along with other Members of the House Rural Health Care Coalition intend to advance legislation packaged to restore fairness to rural areas under the Medicare program. In addition to improving reimbursements we need greater incentives to encourage doctors and other health care professionals to practice in rural areas.

We have a unique way of life in rural America. The rural way of life with all of its benefits is part of our national heritage, and it is one that is worth fighting to preserve. My goal as a representative in 1999 is to ensure that Federal policies recognize our uniqueness and that they are workable, fair and conducive to carrying on our lives in rural America. I look forward to working with my colleagues to accomplish these goals this session.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO PETER
McCANN, COMPOSER OF "AMONG
THE MISSING"**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LAMPSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Peter McCann.

It was through my involvement with the National Center For Missing and Exploited Children and as chairman and founder of the Congressional Caucus on Missing and Exploited Children that I had the privilege of being introduced to Mr. McCann. Missing and exploited children is an issue of great concern to me and one that I hold in the absolute highest regard. As a parent of two children, I cannot even begin to imagine the hurt families of missing children feel as they are left to wait and hope for the return of their son or daughter.

Well, after garnering support from the Caucus and from the National Center to record a song inspired by the plight of these families, I was flattered that Peter McCann would offer his time and talent to compose such a song. Peter performed his duty as a songwriter in superb fashion by composing the heartfelt duet: Among The Missing, and because of his passionate commitment to this project Peter used his connections in Nashville to convince George Massenburg of Seventeen Grand Recording Studios to produce the sound track and to donate the studio time to make this CD. In addition, recording artists Michael McDonald and Kathy Mattea recorded the song to the accompaniment of an 18-piece string section and 35-voice chorus.

Well, Peter is a seasoned veteran of the music industry, and this accomplishment represents only one of his many musical achievements. He originally embarked on his career at Motown Records in 1971, and after releasing two albums of his own he began a lengthy and productive relationship with CBS as a songwriter during which time Peter began advocating the rights of music artists with his involvement in the Songwriters Association. Later, Peter lobbied pro bono on behalf of his colleagues here on Capitol Hill using his organizational leadership skills as the co-chair of the legislative committee for the National Songwriters' Association International. His songs have been recorded by Julio Iglesias, Kenny Rogers, Lee Greenwood, Reba McEntyre, Crystal Gayle, the Oak Ridge Boys, Isaac Hayes, Karen Carpenter, Donnie Osmond, and that is just to list a few among the long list of musical entertainers.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that this most recent recording will provide Peter and the others involved a true sense of pride and a memory of one of their most satisfying accomplishments as

songwriters and as musicians. Peter has agreed to donate the publishing royalties and the right to use the song for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Wal-Mart, a long-time partner in the Center's mission to locate missing children is also committed to promoting the song. Among The Missing, in its nearly 3,000 stores nationwide. Additionally, RCA Records, the recorder and distributor of the song, will dedicate a portion of the sales to distributing photographs of missing children nationwide.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my heartfelt thanks to Peter whose efforts and time played a very large part in ensuring that this project come to fruition. If this song raises the awareness about missing children and reunites one child with his or her family, Peter McCann can take credit. He can hold his head high and feel as proud of his work on behalf of our nation's children as we are of him.

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Thank you, Peter, and God bless you.

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE FOR THE 106TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, in accordance with clause 2, Rule XI of the Rules of the House, I am submitting for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a copy of the Rules Governing Procedure for the Committee on Science for the 106th Congress, adopted on February 4, 1999.

RULE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

GENERAL STATEMENT

(a) The Rules of the House of Representatives, as applicable, shall govern the committee and its subcommittees, except that a motion to recess from day to day and a motion to dispense with the first reading (in full) of a bill or resolution, if printed copies are available, are non-debatable privileged motions in the committee and its subcommittees and shall be decided without debate. The rules of the committee, as applicable, shall be the rules of its subcommittees. The rules of germaneness shall be enforced by the Chairman. [XI 1(a)]

MEMBERSHIP

(b) A majority of the majority Members of the committee shall determine an appropriate ratio of majority to minority Members of each subcommittee and shall authorize the Chairman to negotiate that ratio with the minority party; Provided, however, that party representation on each subcommittee (including any ex-officio Members) shall be no less favorable to the majority party than the ratio for the Full Committee. Provided, further, that recommendations of conferees to the Speaker shall provide a ratio of majority party Members to minority party Members which shall be no less favorable to the majority party than the ratio for the Full Committee.

POWER TO SIT AND ACT; SUBPOENA POWER

(c)(1) Notwithstanding subparagraph (2), a subpoena may be authorized and issued by

the committee in the conduct of any investigation or series of investigations or activities to require the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers and documents as deemed necessary, only when authorized by a majority of the members voting, a majority of the committee being present. Authorized subpoenas shall be signed only by the Chairman, or by any member designated by the Chairman. [XI 2(m)]

(2) The Chairman of the Full Committee, with the concurrence the Ranking Minority Member of the Full Committee, may authorize and issue such subpoenas as described in paragraph (1), during any period in which the House has adjourned for a period longer than 3 days. [XI 2(m)(3)(A)(i)]

(3) A subpoena duces tecum may specify terms of return other than at a meeting or a hearing of the Committee.

SENSITIVE OR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION RECEIVED PURSUANT TO SUBPOENA

(d) Unless otherwise determined by the committee or subcommittee, certain information received by the committee or subcommittee pursuant to a subpoena not made part of the record at an open hearing shall be deemed to have been received in Executive Session when the Chairman of the Full Committee, in his judgment and after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, deems that in view of all the circumstances, such as the sensitivity of the information or the confidential nature of the information, such action is appropriate.

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

(e) All national security information bearing a classification of secret or higher which has been received by the committee or a subcommittee shall be deemed to have been received in Executive Session and shall be given appropriate safekeeping. The Chairman of the Full Committee may establish such regulations and procedures as in his judgment are necessary to safeguard classified information under the control of the committee. Such procedures shall, however, ensure access to this information by any Member of the committee, or any other Member of the House of Representatives who has requested the opportunity to review such material.

OVERSIGHT

(f) Not later than February 15 of the first session of a Congress, the Committee shall meet in open session, with a quorum present, to adopt its oversight plans for that Congress for submission to the Committee on House Oversight and the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, in accordance with the provisions of clause 2(d) of Rule X of the House of Representatives.

(g) The Chairman of the Full Committee, or of any subcommittee, shall not undertake any investigation in the name of the committee without formal approval by the Chairman of the Full Committee after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member of the Full Committee.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

(h) The order of business and procedure of the committee and the subjects of inquiries or investigations will be decided by the Chairman, subject always to an appeal to the committee.

OTHER PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS

(i) During the consideration of any measure or matter, the Chairman of the Full Committee, or of any Subcommittee, or any Member acting as such, shall suspend further

proceedings after a question has been put to the Committee at any time when there is a vote by electronic device occurring in the House of Representatives.

(j) The Chairman of the Full Committee, after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, may establish such other procedures and take such actions as may be necessary to carry out the foregoing rules or to facilitate the effective operation of the Committee.

USE OF HEARING ROOMS

(k) In consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, the Chairman of the full committee shall establish guidelines for use of committee hearing rooms.

RULE 2. COMMITTEE MEETINGS [AND PROCEDURES]

QUORUM [XI 2(h)(1)]

(a)(1) One-third of the Members of the committee shall constitute a quorum for all purposes except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this Rule.

(2) A majority of the Members of the committee shall constitute a quorum in order to: (A) report or table any legislation, measure, or matter; (B) close committee meetings or hearings pursuant to Rules 2(c) and 2(d); and (C) authorize the issuance of subpoenas pursuant to Rule 1(c).

(3) Two Members of the committee shall constitute a quorum for taking testimony and receiving evidence, which, unless waived by the Chairman of the Full Committee after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member of the Full Committee, shall include at least one Member from each of the majority and minority parties.

TIME AND PLACE

(b)(1) Unless dispensed with by the Chairman, the meetings of the committee shall be held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month the House is in session at 10:00 a.m. and at such other times and in such places as the Chairman may designate. [XI 2(b)]

(2) The Chairman of the committee may convene as necessary additional meetings of the committee for the consideration of any bill or resolution pending before the committee or for the conduct of other committee business subject to such rules as the committee may adopt. The committee shall meet for such purpose under that call of the chairman. [XI 2(c)]

(3) The Chairman shall make public announcement of the date, time, place and subject matter of any of its hearings, and to the extent practicable, a list of witnesses at least one week before the commencement of the hearing. If the Chairman, with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member, determines there is good cause to begin the hearing sooner, or if the committee so determines by majority vote, a quorum being present for the transaction of business, the Chairman shall make the announcement at the earliest possible date. Any announcement made under this Rule shall be promptly published in the Daily Digest, and promptly made available by electronic form including the committee website. [XI 2(g)(3)]

OPEN MEETINGS [XI 2 (g)]

(c) Each meeting for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, of the committee shall be open to the public, including to radio, television, and still photography coverage, except when the committee, in open session and with a majority present, determines by record vote that all or part of the remainder of the meeting on that day shall be in executive session because disclosure of matters to be considered would endanger national security,